

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FROM THE HUNTING PUBLIC

Q. I'm a nonresident. Do I need to buy an archery or muzzleloader permit?

A. If you plan to hunt in a hunt restricted to archery only or muzzleloaders only, yes.

Q. How do I sign up for hunter ed?

A. Contact the regional office nearest you, or, for more information including online study, check the Fish and Game website at <http://fishandgame.idaho.gov>.

Q. Does Idaho have preference points for controlled hunts?

A. No. Preference points reward the hunter who has put in the longest, thus shutting out young or new hunters. There is still no guarantee you will draw, especially in a high-demand hunt. For a comparison of preference, bonus and other draw schemes go to the Fish and Game website at <http://fishandgame.idaho.gov> and ask the search engine to find "preference."

Q. Why does it take so long to get results from a controlled hunt drawing?

A. Actually, Idaho is average speed or a little better, in comparison with other western states. Many of the applications come in the mail. As soon as the entire file is entered, it has to be checked for accuracy before the drawing is conducted. It has only been taking about a month for the last few years, but we give ourselves ten more days to notify winners. Results are usually online sooner.

Q. I've lost my hunter's education card. How do I prove I've taken it?

A. You must call the fish and game office in the state where you took the course and have them send you a new card, or arrange to have them give us your education number. The current law in Idaho requires any hunter born in 1975 or later to have taken hunter education.

Q. When do general season license and tags go on sale?

A. They go on sale December 1 of the previous year for both residents and non-residents. For example, 2005 licenses and tags go on sale December 1 of 2004. Residents, however get just receipts for turkey, deer and elk tags and can't actually claim these tags until later.

Q. How much hunter orange do I have to wear to hunt in Idaho?

A. Hunter orange is recommended, but not required.

Q. How far off the road do you have to be to hunt legally?

A. You cannot shoot from a road, across a road, from the shoulders of a road, nor from embankments along a road.

Q. Can you hunt big game with a pistol?

A. Only a centerfire pistol and only in any-weapon seasons.

Q. Can I carry a pistol while I'm hunting in an archery-only season?

A. Yes. You have a "right-to-bear-arms" as long as you do not use that pistol to hunt the game specified for your archery season. Pistols are not legal for short-range weapon seasons.

Q. If I don't get my animal during the archery season, can I hunt during the rifle season?

A. We don't have "rifle seasons." It is either an archery hunt, muzzleloader, short-range weapons, or an any-weapon hunt. If the specific tag you have purchased has other hunts on it according to the Rules and Regulations, then you may continue to use that tag for those other hunts.

Q. When do we put in for controlled hunts?

A. For moose, sheep or goat, you apply during the month of April. For all other big game controlled hunts, you apply during the month of May. Exceptions to this rule are: Spring controlled hunts for bear are applied for from January 15 through February 15. There is a "limited entry" draw-hunt for the Non-Resident Southeast Deer Tag. The application period is December 1 through January 31. (Limited entry draw-hunts have different rules than controlled hunts.)

Q. Do I have to have a second choice on my controlled hunt application?

A. No. Just be sure your first choice hunt number is correct. Don't use past years' regulations.

Q. How come the big game rules books come out so late?

A. Because of the timing of the spring commission meeting when rules are set. The commission waits as late as possible to be sure they have harvest results and winter mortality information prior to setting harvest levels.

Q. Why did the license vendor ask for my social security number?

A. The collection of the social security number is a requirement mandated by the federal government for the purpose of child support collection enforcement under federal statute 42 U.S.C.A. 666 and Idaho code section 73-122.

Q. Why pick on hunters and anglers?

A. The requirement for SSN applies to all professional, occupational and recreational licenses. For example, your outfitter and doctor had to record their social security numbers to get their license to practice.

Q. What if I refuse to provide my social security number?

A. IDFG cannot force you to provide your social security number, however, without it we cannot issue you a license.

Q. Do I have to provide my child's social security number in order to purchase their license?

A. Yes.

Q. What if I do not have a social security number?

A. In the rare instance that a U.S. resident does not have a social security number, they are required, under Idaho Code Section 73-122 to provide documentation from the Social Security Administration that no number has been assigned and show a birth certificate or other documentation to establish that you are not illegally in the United States.

Q. I am very unhappy with this law, and its effect on me. Who can I talk to about this?

A. While staff at IDFG are willing to listen to your concerns, by the nature of the problem they are not in a position to effect any change. We would suggest contacting your U.S. Senator or Representative and communicating your concerns.

RESIDENT 2004/2005 LICENSE, TAGS AND PERMIT FEES

As of January 1, 2004. Fees may change without notice. Licenses, permits, validations and tags expire December 31.

Resident License

HUNTING	\$11.50
Junior Hunting (12-17 years)	\$6.50
Youth Small Game (10-11 years)	\$6.50
Senior Hunting (with 5 years residency)	\$4.50
FISHING	\$23.50
Junior Fishing (14-17)	\$12.50
Senior Fishing	\$4.50
Resident Furlough Fishing	\$16.00
• Disabled Fishing (SSI, SSDI, DAV)	\$4.50
• Commercial Fishing	\$101.50
COMBINATION HUNTING/FISHING	\$30.50
Senior Combination Hunting/Fishing (65 years old, 5-year residence)	\$4.50
Junior Combination Hunting/Fishing (14-17 years)	\$16.00
Resident Military Furlough Combination Hunting/Fishing	\$16.00
• Disabled Combination Hunting/Fishing (SSI, SSDI, DAV)	\$4.50
SPORTSMAN'S PACKAGE*	\$107.00
• TRAPPING (expires June 30)	\$26.50
• Juvenile (through 17 years)	\$6.50
• TAXIDERMIST/FUR BUYER (expires June 30)	\$36.50
SHOOTING PRESERVE	\$11.50

* **NOTICE:** The Sportsman's Package (RESIDENTS ONLY) includes all rights and privileges associated with a Resident Adult Combination License plus tags for deer, elk, bear, mountain lion, turkey, salmon and steelhead. Archery and muzzleloader are validated on the license.

PERMITS AND VALIDATIONS

The licensing system will validate your license for two-pole fishing, archery, muzzleloader, hound hunting, bear baiting and sage/sharp-tailed grouse. Salmon, steelhead, and WMA pheasant permits and the 3-day salmon/steelhead license must be sealed in a plastic pouch and harvest information recorded on the back. All tags must also be sealed in the appropriate plastic pouch. The Federal Migratory Game Bird Harvest Information Program Validation is required for all migratory bird hunters.

Archery Permit	\$16.50
Muzzleloader Permit	\$16.50
Hound Hunter Permit	\$11.50
Salmon Permit or Steelhead Permit	\$11.50
Two-Pole Fishing Permit (not valid for anadromous salmon or steelhead)	\$12.50
• Bear Bait Permit (available 3/1)	\$11.50
Wildlife Management Area Pheasant Permit (17 & older)	\$21.50
Federal Migratory Game Bird Harvest Information Program Validation (dove, duck, goose, coot, sandhill crane, and common snipe)	\$1.50
Sage/Sharp-tailed Grouse Permit	\$1.50
• Falconry Permit (3-year)	\$26.50

Resident Tags

Deer (except Clearwater Region)	\$18.00
Clearwater Deer (Units 8, 8A, 10, 10A, 11, 11A, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 16A, 17, 18, 19, 20)	\$18.00
♦ Jr./Sr./DAV Deer	\$9.75
Elk	\$28.50
♦ Jr./Sr./DAV Elk	\$15.00
Bear	\$10.50
♦ Jr./Sr./DAV Bear	\$6.00
Mountain Lion	\$10.50
Turkey - General	\$18.00
Turkey - Extra	\$12.00
♦ Junior/Senior Disabled American Vet (DAV) Turkey Tag	\$9.75
Antelope (general season is archery only)	\$28.50

♦ Valid with senior combination license OR senior hunting license (age 65 and older), junior combination, junior hunting and disabled combination class V.

• These licenses available ONLY at IDFG offices.

SPECIAL RESIDENT PERMITS

Handicapped Archery Permit, \$1.50: Permit for use of crossbow during archery-only. Available at IDFG offices only. Disability must be certified by a medical doctor on an IDFG form.

A disabled person is defined as one who is certified as eligible for federal supplemental income (SSI); social security disability income (SSDI); railroad retirement board disability, disabled American veteran; a nonservice-connected veterans pension; or a service connected veterans disability benefit with 40 percent or more disability. Bring current year documentation when applying.

NOTE: The following licenses, permits, etc., are available ONLY at IDFG offices: Commercial licenses, duplicate tags, documents that require proof of disability, lifetime license (renewal beginning second year of ownership) bear baiting permits and bobcat pelt tags (pelts are tagged at regional offices and the Hunter Education Center only).

RESIDENT LIFETIME LICENSE CERTIFICATES

Regardless of your age, the purchase of a lifetime license could be the best investment you ever make. Lifetime combination hunting and fishing licenses authorize all privileges associated with a corresponding annual license. These licenses are valid for the lifetime of the license holder and are available to all residents of the state of Idaho. They can be purchased at IDFG headquarters and regional offices.

Applicant Age	Combination	Hunting	Fishing
0 - 1 year	\$ 726.50	\$251.50	\$551.50
2 - 50 years	\$1,016.50	\$ 351.50	\$771.50
51 and older	\$ 581.50	\$201.50	\$ 441.50

NONRESIDENT 2004/2005 LICENSE, TAG AND PERMIT FEES

As of January 1, 2004. Fees may change without notice.
Licenses, permits, validations and tags expire Dec. 31.

Nonresident License

HUNTING	\$128.50
Small Game Hunting (upland & migratory game birds, turkey, cottontail only. Not valid for the first five days of pheasant season)	\$73.50
Nongame (January-August)	\$26.50
Youth Small Game (10-11 years)	\$6.50
Junior Mentored Hunting* (12-17 years)	\$6.50
FISHING	\$74.50
Junior Fishing (up to 17)	\$12.50
Daily fishing (1st day)	\$10.50
Each consecutive day at initial time of purchase add	\$4.00
3-Day Salmon/Steelhead (includes 3-day general fishing license)	\$28.50
Commercial Fishing	\$201.50
COMBINATION HUNTING/FISHING	\$181.50
♦ TRAPPING (expires June 30)	\$251.50
♦ TAXIDERMIST/FUR BUYER (expires June 30)	\$126.50
SHOOTING PRESERVE	\$11.50

Nonresident Tags

Deer (except Southeast and Clearwater Region)	\$235.00
Southeast Deer (Units 75, 76, 77, 78)	\$235.00
Clearwater Deer (Units 8, 8A, 10, 10A, 11, 11A, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 16A, 17, 18, 19, 20)	\$235.00
Junior Mentored Deer **	\$9.75
Elk	\$338.50
Junior Mentored Elk **	\$15.00
Bear	\$235.00
Reduced Bear (10, 12, 16A, 17, 19, 20, 20A, 26, 27)	\$31.50
2nd Bear (10, 12, 16A, 17, 19, 20, 20A, 26, 27)	\$31.50
Junior Mentored Bear **	\$6.00
Mountain Lion	\$235.00
Reduced Mountain Lion (10, 12, 16A, 17, 19, 20, 20A, 26, 27)	\$31.50
2nd Mountain Lion (10, 11, 16A, 17, 19, 20, 20A, 26, 27)	\$31.50
Turkey - Spring General Season	\$61.50
Turkey - Spring Controlled Hunt	\$61.50
Turkey - Late Spring/Fall General Season	\$61.50
Turkey - Nonresident Junior Mentored Tag ** (Must have either a youth small game license or junior mentored hunting license)	\$9.75
Antelope (general season is archery only)	\$235.00

PERMITS AND VALIDATIONS

The licensing system will validate your license for two-pole fishing, archery, muzzleloader, hound hunting, bear baiting and sage/sharp-tailed grouse. Salmon, steelhead, and WMA pheasant permits and the 3-day salmon/steelhead license must be sealed in a plastic pouch and harvest information recorded on the back. All tags must also be sealed in the appropriate plastic pouch. The Federal Migratory Game Bird Harvest Information Program Validation is required for all migratory bird hunters.

Archery Permit	\$16.50
Muzzleloader Permit	\$16.50
Hound Hunter Permit	\$128.50
Salmon Permit or Steelhead Permit (Not valid with daily license)	\$11.50
Two-Pole Fishing Permit	\$12.50
♦ Bear Bait Permit (available 3/1)	\$11.50
Wildlife Management Area	
Pheasant Permit (17 & older)	\$21.50

Federal Migratory Game Bird Harvest

Information Program Validation (dove, duck, goose, coot, sandhill crane, and common snipe)

Sage/Sharp-tailed Grouse Permit

Handicapped Archery Permit, \$1.50: Permit for use of crossbow during archery-only. Available at IDFG offices only. Disability must be certified by a medical doctor on an IDFG form.

* Nonresident Junior Mentored Hunting License:

Anyone hunting with this license must be accompanied in the field by an adult license holder close enough to be within normal conversation or hearing range without shouting or the aid of electronic devices.

**** Nonresident Junior Mentored Tags:** The accompanying adult must have tag(s) for the same species, valid in the same area(s). The nonresident junior mentored deer tags are not valid for bear or mountain lion.

♦ These licenses available ONLY at IDFG offices.

WHAT'S NEW IN 2004?

- Nonresident Junior Mentored Tags and Licenses
- Access Yes • Unlawful to Hunt Big Game Within Enclosures
- Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease

The Fish and Game Commission has changed some rules:

Panhandle: The mandatory check-in of any elk taken in a Panhandle Region hunt is no longer required.

Controlled Hunts: Controlled hunt applicants sometimes make errors, or want to change controlled hunt applications for other reasons. Previously not allowed, the rule has been changed to allow cancellation of the application at Fish and Game regional offices, headquarters or McCall. When you re-apply, you have to pay the fee again.

Unlawful to Hunt Big Game Within Enclosures: Prohibits the hunting of big game animals within fenced enclosures. It is now unlawful to attempt to take game animals within an enclosure designed to prohibit ingress or egress of big game animals, including fenced facilities defined as domestic cervidae farms, with a fence eight feet or higher, under Idaho Statute 25-3501, unless authorized by the Director. This rule does not apply to domestic cervidae defined as lawfully owned elk, fallow deer, or reindeer.

Nonresident Junior Mentored Hunting License: Anyone hunting with this license must be accompanied in the field by an adult license holder close enough to be within normal conversation or hearing range without shouting or the aid of electronic devices.

Nonresident Junior Mentored Tags: The accompanying adult must have tag(s) for the same species, valid in the same area(s). The junior tags are not valid for bear or mountain lion.

Access Yes!

Access Yes! is a new program designed to improve sportsmen's access to private land or through private land to public land by compensating willing landowners who provide access. The program has been in development for several years and is modeled after successful access programs in other states. Ultimately, the goal is to provide access to 1,000,000+ acres of private land along with access through private land to thousands more acres of public land.

In 2003, **Access Yes!** provided access to 107,000 acres of private land and access through private land to an additional 240,000 acres of public land. Fish and Game spent \$117,000 on the program in 2003.

Information including locations of properties currently in the program and forms for landowners who wish to apply for the program are available at all Idaho Fish and Game offices and on the Internet at:

<http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/hunting/access>

Draw the Hunt of a Lifetime, Help Pay for Access Yes!

Currently, **Access Yes!** funding is limited. Expanding **Access Yes!** to provide more hunting and fishing access on private and public land will require additional funding. About \$1.2 million is needed to meet the goal of providing hunters and anglers access comparable to access programs in other western states. Part of the funding will come from selling chances to win "supertags."

For the 2004 hunting season, 40 tags - 12 deer, 12 elk, 12 antelope and four moose will be offered. There will be two drawings for the tags in 2004, June 15 and August 16. You can apply at any license vendor, by phone, mail or online, from April 1 to May 31 (drawing June 15) and from June 1 to July 30 (drawing Aug. 16).

One "Super Slam Pak" will be available in each drawing with four tags - one each for antelope, deer, elk and moose.

Supertags can be used in any open hunt (general or controlled) for the species drawn and are "extra" tags, that is, in addition to any other tag the applicant is eligible to obtain. Controlled hunt eligibility is not affected; the applicant can apply for any controlled hunt for which they are eligible in that year or subsequent years. Once-in-a-lifetime moose restrictions do not apply when buying chances in these drawings, and any harvest in these hunts does not affect eligibility to apply in any moose drawing, including future supertag moose drawings.

Applicants must either have a valid Idaho hunting license or be eligible to buy one. One supertag application will cost \$6.50, a package of six will be \$26.50 and a package of 13, \$51.50. "Super Slam Pak" applications will cost \$21.50 for one, \$101.50 for six and \$201.50 for 13. Deadline for receipt of applications for the first drawing is May 31 and for the second drawing, July 31. Application sales will end July 28. The applications purchased from the license vending machine will be "ticket blanks" to be filled out with name, address etc. and mailed to Fish and Game for a drawing. The purchaser can give the tickets to someone else such as a spouse or child. Applications received for the first drawing are not eligible in second drawing.

Clip-and-mail applications are on page 56.

Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease

A disease borne by gnats (Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease) killed a few thousand deer in the Clearwater Region in 2003. The area affected was mostly lower elevations of the Clearwater River drainage from Peck to Grangeville with some mortality around Whitebird and Riggins. Despite these losses, the 2003 hunting season was generally good, indicating the relatively small percent of the total deer that were affected. Biologists are expecting populations to rebound over the next couple of years. EHD is more common in the south than in arid states like Idaho, but it can occur when temperatures stay warm and drought concentrates deer around the water sources where gnats breed. It does not affect humans or elk and generally is not a concern for livestock.

Use of Motorized Vehicles Restricted

Certain areas are now restricted to hunters using motorized vehicles. See page 28 for an explanation of the rule and refer to the notes in the seasons sections for specific limitations.